PHILIPPINE INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN CENTER

Vision

a world where children are free from online exploitation

Mission

combating online exploitation of children through an enhanced global response

PICACC@didm.pnp.gov.ph

PICACC BACKGROUND

The Australian Federal Police (AFP), UK National Crime Agency (NCA) and non-governmental organization International Justice Mission (IJM) are founding partners in the **Philippine Internet Crimes Against Children Center (PICACC)**, a joint initiative of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI). As law enforcement continues to counter those who sexually exploit children through travel and tourism, this project represents an expansion of those efforts to now target online offenders, especially traffickers who facilitate live-streaming or pay-per-view exploitation for foreigners remaining overseas.

The PICACC will become a hub for domestic Philippine and foreign law enforcement collaborative efforts to combat online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC). The participating agencies expect that, in time, the PICACC will become a regional 'center of excellence' for this crime type. Once fully operational, the PICACC will present benefits including:

- Collectively prioritizing, allocating and de-conflicting child exploitation referrals from foreign partner agencies;
- Ensuring finite resources are collectively focused on high-value outcomes;
- Accessing the combined knowledge, experience and intelligence holdings of domestic and foreign partner agencies;
- Enhancing operational outcomes by leveraging the capability, resources and reach of domestic and foreign partner agencies;
- Expanded access to training and capability development opportunities delivered via the PICACC;
- Maximizing the impact of Philippine law enforcement efforts to combat OSEC through cooperation and collaboration;
- Maximizing the exploitation of suspected OSEC facilitator information through financial intelligence arrangements with the Philippine Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) and other Financial Intelligence Units;
- Accessing enhanced regional and international relationships in the collective effort to combat OSEC; and
- Sharing the PICACC's success and international profile as it delivers operational outcomes and is positioned as a regional center of excellence for combating OSEC.

The PICACC officially opened on 27 February 2019, with initial participants including officers from the PNP Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC), agents of the NBI Anti-Human Trafficking Division (AHTRAD), investigative advisors from IJM, and representatives of foreign law enforcement.

PICACC MANAGEMENT

The PICACC Donor Board of Management (DBoM) was formed in October 2018 to provide strategic advice to the PICACC, promote collaboration, build relationships and develop broader resource, equipment and training solutions to eliminate capability gaps and impediments to conducting OSEC investigations. The inaugural Chair of the DBoM is the PNP WCPC Chief, while the Deputy Chair is the NBI AHTRAD Chief.

In addition, the PICACC Operational Coordination Group (OCG) was formed in January 2019. The role of the OCG is to provide operational level advice to the PICACC including triaging incoming referrals, determining operational priorities, leveraging cross-agency capability and coordinating collective investigative resources.

BROADER INITIATIVES

Delivery of the PICACC is the first plank of a broader child exploitation plan which the DBoM is working to achieve. That plan includes:

- Establishing the PICACC as a hub for domestic Philippine and foreign law enforcement collaborative efforts to combat OSEC;

- Enhancing NBI AHTRAD and PNP WCPC investigation capability through provision of modern technology, equipment, capability and resources;
- Delivering secure data storage and online connectivity between the PICACC, NBI AHTRAD and PNP WCPC regional investigation teams to promote collaboration, rapid exchange of information, real-time access to sensitive digital case files and video conferencing capability;
- Enhancing NBI AHTRAD and PNP WCPC investigative skills through direct provision of training and mentoring; and
- Developing formal and informal relationships to promote a cooperative and holistic approach to combating child exploitation across the SE Asia region.

GET INVOLVED

All foreign law enforcement agencies are invited to participate in the PICACC through various means including:

- Using the PICACC as a first point of contact for new OSEC case referrals;
- Maintaining a presence in the PICACC (permanent, semi-permanent or ad-hoc, by using the PICACC as a base when you are visiting PNP Camp Crame);
- Channeling child exploitation intelligence and referrals through the PICACC (to aid de-confliction and coordination of the collective OSEC effort);
- Receiving intelligence produced by the PICACC (particularly related to possible OSEC buyers/offenders in your jurisdiction);
- Supporting investigations conducted via the PICACC through capability, intelligence or direct support for resolution activity; and
- Funding DBoM initiatives to enhance OSEC investigative capability.

FAQ

Q Is this an exclusive Australian or British Special project?

A No. While the Australian and British Governments are taking a role in standing up and funding the capability of the PICACC, it is designed for anyone to refer cases through with a view to sharing in the collective experiences of all and mutually supporting the collective mission of reducing the harm caused by OSEC.

Q Do I have to use the PICACC?

A No. Please feel free to refer any cases on a bilateral basis to the appropriate Philippine authorities. The use of the PICACC is entirely voluntary.

Q What if I have sensitive information that cannot be widely shared?

A The PICACC will honor any lawful restrictions or limitations attached to the sharing of information. However, fewer limitations on the PICACC's use of your data will increase the likelihood of successful outcomes for your referral.

Q How do I get a case to the PICACC?

A Please complete a *PICACC referral form* (http://bit.do/PICACC-ref) and submit it to PICACC@didm.pnp.gov.ph.

Q What support can I expect?

A The OCG meets weekly to record, review and assess new submissions. The PICACC will inform the most relevant Philippine agencies determine which may have capability and capacity to support the case. An introduction will be made to that office, along with a proposed operational plan which may involve PNP and/or NBI. If full operational support cannot be allocated then an alternative strategy may be discussed.

Q Will I lose control of my case?

A How a case is run/managed will be dictated by any existing agreements you may have with PNP/NBI. What you share on you case is your choice; you remain in control.

Q How will my case data be stored?

A The PICACC will be developing a secure networked system to store case data and referrals and enable analysis and deconfliction of cases. This system will be a managed database and be both GDPR compliant and conform to the Data Protection laws of The Philippines.

Q What else can I expect from the PICACC?

A The PICACC is keen to ensure that any intelligence regarding other offenders, both inside and outside the Philippines, is developed and disseminated as soon as possible to appropriate agencies. The nature of live-streaming OSEC lends itself to rapid development of seed intelligence in numerous directions which can identify spin-off or associated cases. One of the PICACC goals will be achieved through joint exploitation of this data, resulting in dissemination of more relevant intelligence leads or opportunities for joint investigations worldwide. While some of this analysis is currently being duplicated (service providers may be receiving multiple requests for similar information), the PICACC aims to help reduce redundant demands on service providers' time and efforts.

Q How can I get more information?

A Send your request to PICACC@didm.pnp.gov.ph. A PICACC member will direct your message to the individual best suited to respond, at which point arrangements can be made for a phone call, video chat, or personal visit to the PICACC office.